

## Message Text

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46

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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P 061633Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9087

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 3520

EXDIS

PASS AMBASSADOR RIVERO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SP US

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR AGREEMENT OF NEW SPANISH AMBASSADOR TO  
U.S.

1. FOREIGN UNDERSECRETARY ROVIRA CALLED ME IN TODAY TO CONVEY GOS REQUEST FOR AGREEMENT FOR APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR JAIME ALBA DELIBES AS THE NEW SPANISH AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES. ROVIRA ASKED THAT THE SELECTION OF ALBA BE HANDLED IN THE UTMOST CONFIDENCE. ONLY FRANCO, THE PRIME MINISTER, THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND HE KNEW ABOUT IT THUS FAR AND HE WAS CONVEYING THE REQUEST THIS WAY RATHER THAN THROUGH THE SPANISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON IN ORDER TO AVOID LEAKS. HE HOPED THAT A REPLY WOULD BE FORTHCOMING REASONABLY SOON SINCE THE WASHINGTON EMBASSY HAS BEEN WITHOUT AN AMBASSADOR FOR SOME TIME.

2. ROVIRA EMPHASIZED THAT ALBA HAD BEEN SELECTED AFTER VERY CAREFUL CONSIDERATION, IN VIEW OF THE UPCOMING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE US AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE POST. HE WAS A SENIOR DIPLOMAT WITH VARIED EXPERIENCE WHO HAD SERVED IN WASHINGTON AS MINISTER AT THE EMBASSY FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS (WHEN THE COUNT OF MOTRICO WAS AMBASSADOR) AND HAD PRO-US SYMPATHIES. HE ALSO WAS WELL VERSED IN ECONOMIC MATTERS, WHICH THE GOS CONSIDERED AN IMPORTANT SECTOR OF ITS RELATIONS WITH THE US. (COMMENT: ALBA HAS A SON WHO IS  
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AN AMERICAN CITIZEN AND ANOTHER WHO HAS BEEN STUDYING

AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY. IN RECENT SOCIAL CONTACTS OF EMBASSY OFFICIALS WITH HIM, HE IMPRESSED US AS A CONGENIAL PERSON WITH VERY FRIENDLY SENTIMENTS TOWARD THE US.)

3. FOLLOWING IS ALBA'S CIRCULUM VITAE:

BORN NOVEMBER 30, 1908

ENTERED DIPLOMATIC CAREER FEBRUARY 25, 1933

WAS A MEMBER OF VARIOUS SPANISH DELEGATIONS IN COMMERCIAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE NETHERLANDS (1934), ESTONIA, DENMARK AND SWEDEN (1935) AND NORWAY (1936).

JANUARY 1, 1937 (DURING THE CIVIL WAR): ASSIGNED TO THE SECRETARIAT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS IN BURGOS (WITH THE NATIONALIST GOVERNMENT)

1943-47: COMMERCIAL ATTACHE IN SWITZERLAND

1947-51: COMMERCIAL ATTACHE IN UK

JULY 1951-JULY 1952: UNDERSECRETARY OF FOREIGN COMMERCE

1952-57: ECONOMIC COUNSELOR AT SPANISH EMBASSY ROME

AUGUST 1957: APPOINTED ECONOMIC COUNSELOR AT SPANISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON. WAS MEMBER OF THE SPANISH DELEGATION TO THE 12TH UNGA.

DECEMBER 1957: BECAME MINISTER AT WASHINGTON EMBASSY. IN 1959 AND 1960, WAS MEMBER OF THE SPANISH DELEGATION TO MEETINGS OF GOVERNORS OF THE IMF AND IBRD.

1962-63: AMBASSADOR TO THE PHILIPPINES

1963-67: AMBASSADOR TO BRAZIL

1967-1972: AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM

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MARCH 1972-AUGUST 1973: SPANISH PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS.

AUGUST 1973: ATTAINED PERSONAL RANK OF AMBASSADOR. SINCE THEN HAS BEEN AT THE DISPOSITION OF THE MFA AWAITING ASSIGNMENT (COMMENT: REPORTEDLY HE WAS SLATED EARLIER TO BECOME AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRIA; HOWEVER THIS ASSIGNMENT WAS HELD UP PRESUMABLY BECAUSE HE CAME UNDER CONSIDERATION

FOR OTHER POSTS.)

AXELROD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENT, AMBASSADORS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 JUN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REQUEST FOR AGREEMENT OF NEW SPANISH AMBASSADOR TO U.S.  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SP, US, (DELIBES, JAIME ALBA), (ROVIRA)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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